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PHOTO OF RUBBER DUCKS BEING USED TO AUCTION OFF ITEMS AT THE FUNDRAISER BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

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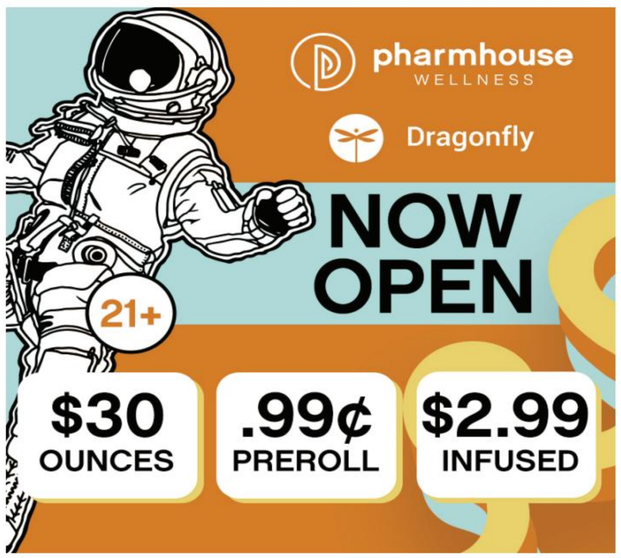

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Sunday service 1015 ET
Thursday bible study 7pm ET
Saturday men's bible study 915 ET in person and zoom
Saturday women's bible study 1030 ET on zoom
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Redamak's to celebrate 50 years

IT TAKES TRADITION TO BE A LEGEND

Redamak's will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this summer from noon to 11 p.m. Tuesday, July 15, which will mark a half century of proudly serving "The Hamburger that made New Buffalo, Michigan Famous!!!" ™

Redamak's, a popular seasonal restaurant in Southwest Michigan, traces its roots all the way back to the 1940s, with George and Gladys Redamak, the original owners. What started off as a one-room tavern with a squeaky screen door has gradually evolved into the institution it is today. Since purchasing the business in 1975, Jimbo and Angie Maroney and the Maroney family, with the help of numerous dedicated employees, friends, and business partnerships have fortified Redamak's Tradition.

Rooted in a strong commitment to customer satisfaction and customer return that consistently prepares quality ingredients, Redamak's has proven to be truly legendary. Since 1975, Redamak's has continued to freshly cut, grind, and patty all their burgers in-house with no fillers or preservatives.

"Our lifeblood is family. The emphasis at Redamak's is on the food; we view alcohol as a convenience. Redamak's is, simply stated, a food factory!" owner Chuck Maroney said.

Many have shared important life milestones at the restaurant.

"There have been and will continue to be many family firsts," Maroney said, and went on "expressing his gratitude on behalf of the Maroney family, staff, and to all the amazing people that have contributed to Redamak's longevity. Thank you to Jim and Angie Maroney for their foresight, passion and true determination!"

The July 15 festivities will begin with a Flagpole and Plaque Dedication Ceremony prior to opening. While most of the day will be business as usual, after lunch, a quick change over of their Four Seasons room will make way for the night's entertainment: Beginning at 6 p.m. a performance by the classic pop and rock band, Surf Inc., will start the evening off. The popular Indiana-based Classic Rock band, The Whistle Pigs, will play those tried-and-true classic rock hits from 8-11 p.m. Throughout the day, Redamak's will be serving a limited throwback menu, have a variety of merchandise giveaways and a photo booth certain to capture some memorable moments.

So, without further ado, "Come On, Bite Into A Legend!!" ™

For additional information, like and follow Redamak's on its social media pages and/or visit their website at www.redamaks.com.

Redamak's is located at 616 E. Buffalo Street in New Buffalo. — STAFF REPORTS

For a precept to be effective, one must not only be instructed in what's best but also why.
— Dino N. Fatouros

STRAWBERRY SOCIAL IN NEW TROY NEXT MONTH

The New Troy Community Center will feature the seventh annual Allan Boyd Memorial Strawberry Social, from 2 to 4 p.m., in the gazebo garden Sunday, July 13.

The free event will offer live "big band" music from the Down by the Dock, as well as tempting treats such as strawberry shortcake, ice cream, and root beer floats.

Every summer for the past seven years, the Boyd family has gifted this event to the community in memory of their patriarch Allan Boyd (1925-2017). Allan grew up in New Troy and attended New Troy High School, which used to stand on the site of the current New Troy Township Park. As a young man, he owned a garage in the center of town. Later in life, he became township supervisor and remained a prominent figure in local politics for many years. His reminiscences of the town were featured in the movie, "New Troy: The Center of the World."

For more information, contact FriendsOfNewTroy@yahoo.com or Terry Hanover at 269-369-1897.

The New Troy Community Center is an all-volunteer facility run by the non-profit organization, Friends of New Troy. It is located at 13372 California Road in New Troy.

For more information, contact FriendsOfNewTroy@yahoo.com or Terry Hanover at 269-369-1897. — STAFF REPORTS

Local Government Meetings

New Buffalo Times

Democracy Requires Transparency

CITY OF NEW BUFFALO
VANCE PRICE, MAYOR
CITY COUNCIL
MARK ROBERTSON, ROGER LIJEWSKI, KAREN GEAR, RICH KNOLL, VANCE PRICE
City Council meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 6:30PM
CITY OF NEW BUFFALO PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 5:30PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP BOARD
HOWARD MALES, MICHELLE HEIT, MICHELLE HANNON, PATTY IAZZETTO, BARBARA ANDERSON
Board meets on the 3rd Monday of each month at 4PM
NEW BUFFALO TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 6:30PM
SHERIFF BERRIEN COUNTY
Sheriff, Chuck Heit
Undersheriff, Greg Sanders
NEW BUFFALO AREA RECREATIONAL AUTHORITY
Meets at 10AM on the 2nd Wednesday of every other month (odd) at New Buffalo Township Hall, 17425 Red Arrow Highway New Buffalo
NEW BUFFALO AREA SCHOOLS BOARD
LISA WERNER, JOHN HASKINS, DENISE CHURCHILL, JENNIFER SUMMERS, VANESSA THUN, STEPHEN DONNELLY, GREG VOSBERG
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP BOARD
DAVID BUNTE, PAULA DUDIAK, LIZ RETTIG, RICHARD SULLIVAN, ARTHUR ANDERSON
Chikaming Board meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 6:30PM
CHIKAMING TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION
Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 6:30PM
THREE OAKS
THREE OAKS TOWNSHIP BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7PM
VILLAGE OF THREE OAKS BOARD
Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7PM
GRAND BEACH
Meets on the 3rd Wednesday at 5PM EST
KIMBERLY WOLNIK, CLERK-TREASURER
HARRY WALDER, JACK GRACE, ED SEBASTIAN, PETER DOERR, EDWARD BRANDES
MICHIANA
VILLAGE OF MICHIANA COUNCIL
Meets on the 2nd Friday of each month at 1PM

Village Council approves referring short-term rental moratorium discussion to Planning Commission

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Members of the Grand Beach Village Council agreed to refer to the Planning Commission the issue of a potential moratorium on licensing additional short-term rental houses at their Wednesday, June 18, meeting.

The Planning Commission would then refer the matter to the Short-Term Rental Committee, who would then get back to the council with any information they gather.

"In the meantime, we'll continue to listen to input from residents and figure out if there's something that needs to be done here," council president Harry Walder said.

Walder said a couple of residents asked that he put the item on the agenda for a "discussion."

Council member Ed Sebastian said that the council has heard input regarding short-term rentals throughout the course of the first half of the year.

"I would say there may come a day when a moratorium on short-term rentals might be necessary and I think at some point, before anything happens to dramatically change the situation, we probably should talk about what would be the kinds of triggers that would make us bring that topic up," he said.

Sebastian added that the village is currently seeing a "declining number" of STRs.

Councilmember Peter Doerr said the village "laid out a pretty straight forward plan that we're going to revisit this every year" and can't just "jump to change this all the time."

"If there's an emergency that comes up, we have to address that," he said.

Doerr added data should be collected.

Walder said that changes to the short-term rental ordinance that were made earlier this year won't take effect until the end of this year.

John Larkin said he said that he's of the mindset that "if it's not broke, I don't know why we want to fix it." He said he believes that there haven't been any arrests or citations in 2024 or 2025 so far with regards to STRs. Getting rid of the ability for someone to rent, he said, would cause the property values to go down "anywhere from between 10 and 20 percent."

Larkin added that "adding more teeth" to enforcement may be the answer, and that there should be a "very strong" penalty for those who don't follow the rules.

Mike Hall said it's "critical that we all report violations as we see them so we can get better compliance."

Blake O'Halloran, chair of the committee, said that less than 10 percent of the homes in Grand Beach are rentals and that they're decreasing "year to year."

He added that a letter was sent out by Walder to residents to make it easier for residents to know how to submit complaints, which would also help them spot repeat offenders.

"We're trying to figure out the best way to handle all of this and make sure everyone has the peace and tranquility they want as residents of Grand Beach," he said.

Joe Reinert, who lives in Golfmore and is a member of the committee, said that, in talks with residents, the bigger issue is "nuisances," and that people who have bought a home in R-1 now feel like they're "living in a commercial rental zone."

He requested the council revisit the moratorium issue at the next meeting.

Brian Schinderle echoed his concerns.

"I'm very sympathetic to people who thought they were buying a home and now they're in a rental zone that's very high traffic and a high turnover class of people," he said.

Councilmembers approved awarding a contract for an engineering study with regards to beach nourishment to Edgewater pending the village raises donations to fund the study in two months' time.

In April, the Beach Resiliency Committee received approval from the council to put out requests for proposals to coastal engineering firms to "develop site assessment and data collection, engineering analysis and sand nourishment planning, permitting and regulatory compliance and design and construction documents, all with the intent of being able to award a contract to a contractor to restore the village's beaches."

Ed Trainor from the committee said that they put RFPs out to four to five firms and received three replies, with the shortlisted ones being Abonmarche and Edgewater.

The committee recommended that the council award the $72,400 contract to Edgewater.

Grand Beach resident Joe Farewell and his team is trying to raise the donations, with Walder saying that if $74,000 or $75,000 can be raised, "we can do this."

Worry a little bit every day and in a lifetime you will lose a couple of years. If something is wrong, fix it if you can. But train yourself not to worry: Worry never fixes anything. *— Ernest Hemingway*

Council members heard a presentation on an Urban Forestry Management Plan.

Diane Cody, who sits on the Tree Board, said the board formed in 2023 and a tree ordinance was approved by the council in 2024.

The committee applied for a matching grant, which was handled through Great Lakes Urban Forestry (GLUF), and a total of $20,000 was received.

With the help of GLUF, the committee created the forestry plan.

The grant included inventorying the village's 1,933 trees on public property. Trees and their health were identified, as well as ones that need to be removed and pruned.

Several trees can be removed by the village's public works department, with the larger ones requiring more money and hiring someone else.

In planting the trees to replace the ones that are removed, Cody said it's important that a variety of species of trees are used.

She added that a potential tree nursery could be created in the golf course. Cody said a benefit to a nursery is that the trees will be already developing and growing up in the village's soil and climate.

Cody said the plan is to prune one sixth of the trees each year, with the huge ones requiring the hiring of someone. She said that a consultant will also be needed to consult on decisions.

In working off the 20-year plan, Cody said they're always going to have "dollars that are going to need to be spent" on tree maintenance, with around $40,000 being spent most years.

Additional goals include writing for grants and educating the community.

Councilmember and police commissioner Ed Brandes said that the Michigan Supreme Court has "declined the invitation we extended to hear our appeal" with regards to a lawsuit with New Buffalo Township over its 20-year public safety Special Assessment District.

He added that the Michigan Municipal League also filed an amicus brief and agreed with the village that it was "an improper use of the township's authority to impose upon us as a home rule municipality" regarding the SAD and that village attorney Sara Senica, who was also representing the Village of Michiana, took the lead on the appeal.

A proposal for federal funding to Rep. Tim Walberg's office for a potential joint police station between the villages of Grand Beach and Michiana was rejected due to the changing of presidential administrations. Brandes said that it was decided to reevaluate pending projects and that the village was encouraged to resubmit next year.

In May, the council approved a resolution to adopt ballot language to increase the village's General Operating Millage by 3.2463 mills.

Walder had reported survey results from the village's "unfunded" projects that includes the potential police station elicited 133 responses, with 60% in favor of a millage increase. He said he'd work on setting up town halls in July, August and October with regards to the ballot proposal.

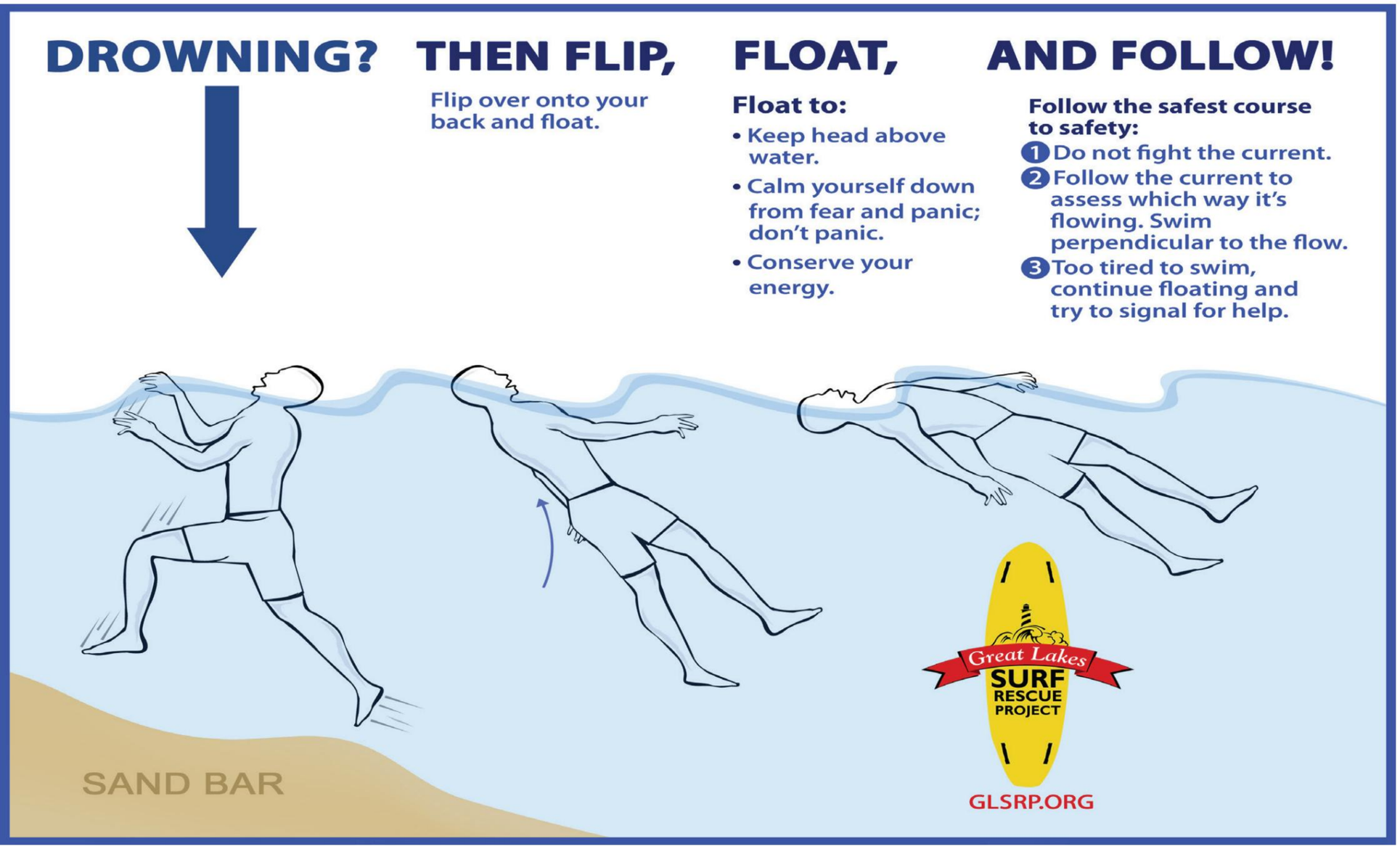
Councilmembers approved Resolution 2025-5 Budget Appropriations Act and Budget for 2025-2026.

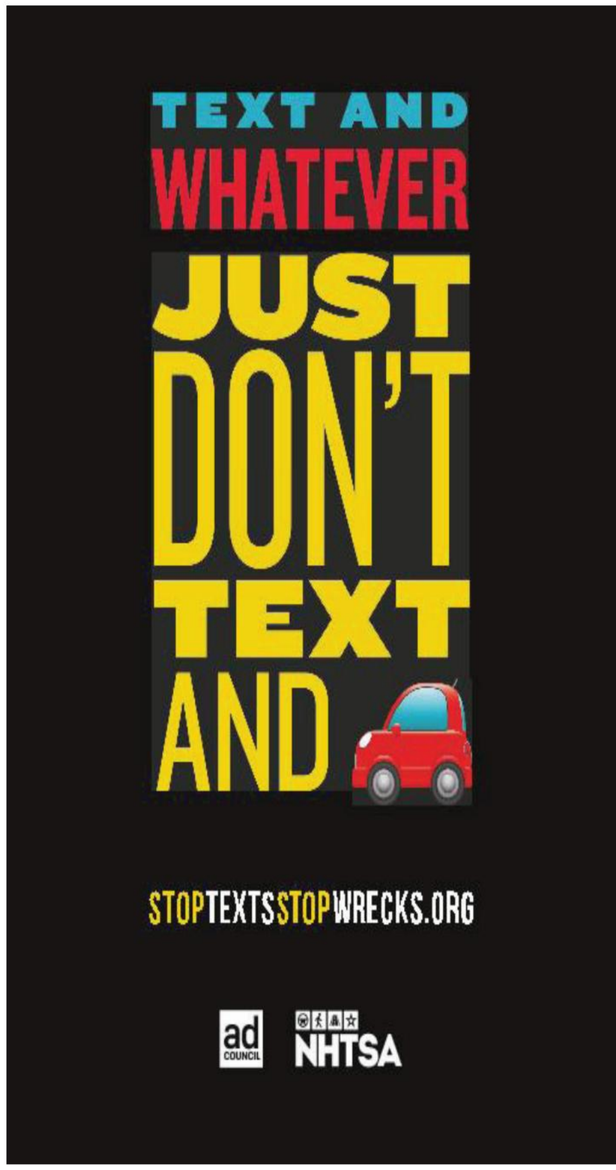
The addition of a "leaf pick-up" charge to utility bills at $10 per month was approved.

A contract with Dune Restoration Services to furnish and install a stairway from the viewing platform at Pine Avenue down to the lower sea wall and stone revetment for $21,500 was approved.

Employee pay increases for 2025-26 at 1.5% were approved.

Council members approved ordering a new ice machine for Pro Shop from Yitahome not to exceed $1249.


DROWNING?
THEN FLIP,
Flip over onto your back and float.
FLOAT,
Float to:
• Keep head above water.
• Calm yourself down from fear and panic; don't panic.
• Conserve your energy.
AND FOLLOW!
Follow the safest course to safety:
1 Do not fight the current.
2 Follow the current to assess which way it's flowing. Swim perpendicular to the flow.
3 Too tired to swim, continue floating and try to signal for help.
SAND BAR
Great Lakes SURF RESCUE PROJECT
GLSRP.ORG



SCHOLASTICS

School board approves hiring a curriculum director, special education director

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

Members of the New Buffalo Area Schools Board of Education approved hiring a special education director and a curriculum director at their Monday, June 23, meeting.

Diane Hyatt, who currently serves as a special education teacher at the elementary school, was hired as special education director and Sam Stine, who hails from Bridgman Public Schools, was hired as curriculum director.

Both will be replacing David Kelly, who served in both capacities and announced his retirement last month.

Superintendent Adam Bowen said that the committee interviewed two candidates and that they recommended Hyatt, who he then interviewed.

"Diane has done a phenomenal job for us over the past couple of years so I'm looking forward to seeing how this position works out," he said.

Stine has been with Bridgman, where he currently serves as assistant superintendent and oversees curriculum evaluation assessment, athletics, custodial maintenance, special education and technology, for the past 15 years. Before that, he'd been middle and high school principals and taught social studies in St Joseph.

Stine has been with Bridgman, where he currently serves as assistant superintendent and oversees curriculum evaluation assessment, athletics, custodial maintenance, special education and technology, for the past 15 years. Before that, he'd been middle and high school principals and taught social studies in St Joseph.

"Bridgman and New Buffalo are similar in many ways – high performing, small school districts, national Blue Ribbons, so I really feel like Sam can help continue that trend that we're continuing to try to go to," Bowen said.

Kline said the information that was presented in the district's Strategic Scorecard, which was given earlier in the meeting, was a reason to accept the position.

"It's a phenomenal example of what is happening here, and it makes me excited enough to leave my alma mater to come here to be a part of an excellent opportunity for me to grow as a leader and to participate with this wonderful team that's here," he said.

Board members amended the 2024-2025 Budget, as presented (General Fund, Bison Educational Trust Fund, Food Service Fund, Activity Fund, 2021 Debt Retirement Fund, 2023 Debt Retirement Fund Public Improvement Fund).

Business manager Pano Arvanitis said that local revenues in the General Fund were $17.9 million, state revenues were $2.6 million, federal revenues were $163,000 and other revenues were $255,000.

Expenses in the general fund were around $21 million, with roughly 70 percent of expenses being on employees and 30 percent for other expenses, such as operations.

Building principals gave the 2024-2025 Strategic Scorecard Report.

Under the Academics pillar, New Buffalo Elementary Principal Melissa Lijewski said that work has continued on a Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum across all three buildings, that they've continued with conducting data teams to discuss data and how to best support students academically and behaviorally, that a new ELA and math curriculum has been adopted and the elementary school has adopted a new writing framework, and the Bloomz platform for writing and communication was adopted and will be used next year.

Under the Growth and Sustainability pillar, New Buffalo Middle School Principal Dan Caudle said that they've continued to use the Studer Education survey to drive their decisions and create 2025-2026 action plans and continued using the Rounding process with all staff members twice a year.

Under Culture and Community, New Buffalo High School Principal Tracy Ripley said the Wellness Team has continued to work on antibullying programs and initiatives and will implement a more expanded antibullying initiative that will be broken into smaller groups by each grade level, have their Studer stakeholder survey (parents, students and staff) to create actions plans for all three buildings and expanded cannabis education with, having a districtwide assembly for fifth through 12th grades on healthy choices.

Bowen said that the presentation is a "sneak peek" of goals for next year and that it's the presentation is the result of the district's first year of implementing its five-year strategic plan.

"We'll continue each year to evaluate where we're at with the overall goals and then make annual goals so they're more achievable," he said.

Board members heard an update on the elementary school's sensory room.

The school had added the room, along with a restorative paraprofessional, Samantha Niemeyer, this school year.

Resources for the room were purchased through the Whole Child Award and a grant from the Berrien County Community Foundation.

"It's really allowed us to build a space where student can take those moments that they need and use the tools and the resources that we have in place with the restorative paraprofessional to allow them to get back to that regulated space that they need so they can get back into the classroom ready to learn," Lijewski said.

She said the Sensory Room received 573 visits, with 86 students visiting it throughout the year. Of those students, 41% were in grades kindergarten through fifth grade, 84% didn't need additional staff follow-up and 14% were referred to the school counselor. Niemeyer was trained in restorative practices and was able to hold 24 restorative conversations and circles.

Board members approved the 2025-2026 elementary, middle and high school handbooks, as well as the Student Athletic Handbook.

Man accused of assaulting anti-Trump demonstrator in La Porte

BY STAN MADDUX

A man was charged Monday, June 23, with punching a President Trump protester in the face during a "No Kings" demonstration in downtown La Porte.

Brian Foster, 45, will have his case heard in La Porte Superior Court 3 after a judge ruled the evidence was sufficient enough for him to answer to charges of battery and two other misdemeanor counts of disorderly conduct and public intoxication.

La Porte Police said the investigation shows Foster during the June 21 demonstration outside the courthouse at Lincolnway and U.S. 35 was a passenger in a passing vehicle.

He yelled at one of the demonstrators, who was standing on a sidewalk holding an American flag hanging upside down from a pole.

An upside-down flag means America in distress.

Foster, who lives in La Porte, demanded the flag be turned the right way but after the demonstrator refused, he asked the driver to stop the vehicle so he could step out, police said.

Police said Foster approached the 38-year-old man holding the flag and, during a verbal exchange, punched him in the face.

Both men grabbed each other and fell to the pavement along the edge of the curb on the U.S 35 side of the intersection.

Several demonstrators were trying to remove Foster from the victim when two officers monitoring the protest from across the street called for assistance and ran over.

Two officers with help from a third officer lifted Foster up off the pavement and placed him in handcuffs.

Police said Foster was escorted a few hundred feet on foot to the La Porte County Jail where he was given a portable breathalyzer test after an officer detected an odor of alcohol.

The victim, Blake Boardman of La Porte did not have any obvious signs of injury but did complain of some pain from the cheek and temple on the left side of his face.

Boardman said he was also experiencing pain from Foster stepping on his foot during the confrontation.

"That's about it," he said.

Boardman said the demonstration a week after protests against the president were held nationwide was nearly over and peaceful until the conflict.

The two men were exchanged words when Foster allegedly punched the demonstrator in the face.

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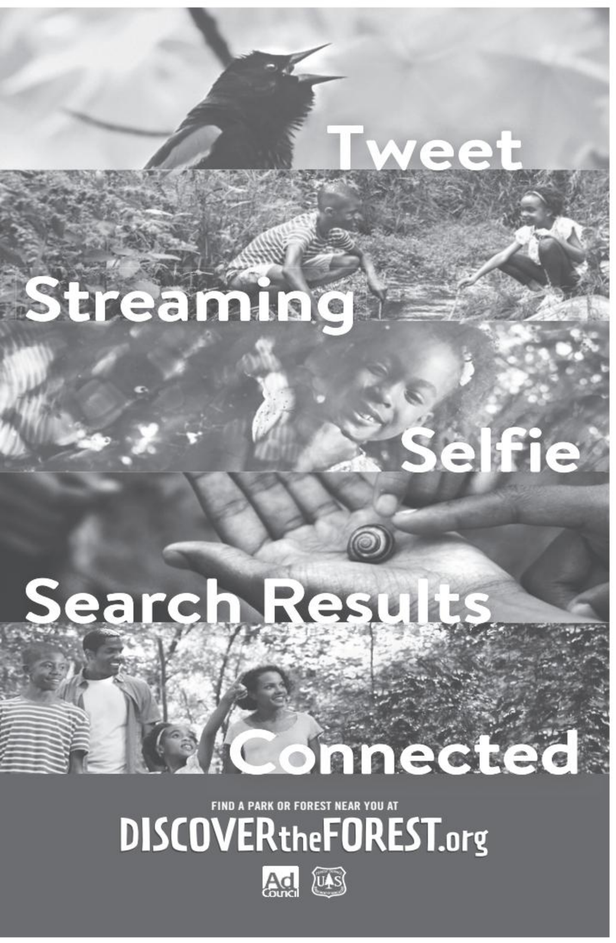
NEW SUMMER
DAILY HAPPY HOUR
3-5PM
BITES
$1 OYSTERS
Limit one dozen per person.
Valid with purchase of a beverage.
$10 SHRIMP & DIP TRIO
Shrimp with 3 Dipping Sauces:
Bang Bang Sauce, Cilantro Lime Crema, and Cocktail Sauce
½ PRICE FLAT BREADS
Classic Margarita, Mediterranean, Sausage & Giardiniera
SIPS
$8 SPRITZ O'CLOCK
Limoncello, Aperol Spritz, or Hugo Spritz
$16 SLUSHES & SANGRIA FLIGHT
Includes one white, one red, and two seasonal frozen beverages.
SHELLEBRATE HOUR AT SONNY D'S
SONNY D's BAR & GRILL • NEW BUFFALO •
Valid in bar area only. Restrictions may apply.

BASEBALL MUSEUM TO PRESENT '3RD BASE'

The Biggest Little Baseball Museum will be presenting the "3rd Base" of its High Noon First Saturday Speaker Series Saturday, July 5, at the historic Masonic Lodge.

Established in 1867, the Lodge is located above Alapash at 14 ½ North Elm Street on Three Oaks' Magnificent Quarter Mile. In addition to being in this rarely seen historic space, attendees will be treated to "Jackie Was the First." Previously presented to the History Hounds of the Michigan Historical Society, with high marks, this one-hour program is a look back at Black players in baseball and explains the rise and fall of the Negro Leagues. It will highlight Jackie Robinson, along with other players and people and their roles in integrating baseball.

Admission is free, and each attendee will receive a complimentary box of Cracker Jack. — STAFF REPORTS



2025 Singer-Songwriter Competition Finals coming next month

Perennial Acorn fan favorite Singer-Songwriter Competition Finals will return for its 13th consecutive year to The Acorn Saturday, July 19.

The Acorn proudly announces this year's finalists: Annie Bacon, Chris DuPont, Christopher Gold, Ryan Kirkpatrick, Shelley Miller, and Kylee Phillips.

Annie Bacon is a writer and songwriter living in Ann Arbor, Michigan, who merges with a literary writing style and folk-rock Americana sound to create rich and emotionally complex music. Bacon emerges from a loss-filled five years with 2024's "Storm." She also composed a folk opera, co-created a full-length musical, and is working on a novel on themes of motherhood and war.

Chris DuPont is a Michigan native tunesmith, endlessly reimagining the indie/folk paradigm. He is a regular staple at The Ark, one of the most celebrated listening rooms in the Midwest. He has been a finalist at Rocky Mountain Folks Fest (2013), The Acorn Singer Songwriter Competition (2016), and Songwriter Serenade (2025). He has shared stages with Theo Katzman, May Erlewine, Brendan James, Edwin McCain, Needtobreathe, Peter Mulvey, and John Hiatt.

Christopher Gold is a Kentucky-born songwriter living in Wisconsin, who has written and recorded folk songs, country songs, rock and roll songs, and everything in between. Recognized with a Wisconsin Area Music Industry Award for Singer/Songwriter of the Year, Gold has performed at venues like Codfish Hollow, The Majestic Theater, and The Barrymore Theater, and captivated audiences at festivals including ROMP and Mile Of Music. He's also had the privilege of sharing the stage with respected artists such as Robert Earl Keen, Rodney Crowell, Justin Townes Earle, and William Elliott Whitmore.

Fort Collins, Colorado, based songwriter and outdoor travel guide Ryan Kirkpatrick leads the adventure-inspired music project known as The 14ers. Refining his own signature style of Mountaintop Folk-Pop (also the name of The 14ers' 2019 album), Kirkpatrick draws songwriting inspiration from the places and the people surrounding him as he travels around the globe sharing his love for the outdoors leading skiing, photography, and hiking trips from Colorado to Mount Kilimanjaro.

Shelley Miller is a Chicago-based songwriter, multi-instrumentalist, circus artist and aerialist. Over the course of their more than 20-year career, they have released six albums of original music (both solo and as a band front-person) and performed throughout the Midwest and East Coast. They are a past winner of the Sandy Lee Songfest songwriting contest, finalist in the Sisters Folk Festival Dave Carter Memorial Songwriting Contest and a finalist in the National Women's Music Festival Emerging Artist contest. They teach full-time at the Old Town School of Folk Music, where they were named a Distinguished Teaching Artist in 2014. They are also debuting their first musical circus show, The Amazing Adventures of 2NBs, this summer in Chicago.

Kylee Phillips is a Michigan-native vocalist and songwriter of deeply self-exposing pop music, who has garnered cult-like acclaim in the Midwest and beyond since her explosive debut EP, "Long Time Coming." Recent highlights include an Official Showcase at Folk Alliance Regional Midwest, headlining The Ark in Ann Arbor and placing third in the Songwriter Serenade songwriting competition in Austin, Texas.

A panel of esteemed judges and The Acorn audience will participate as six finalists take the stage for this thrilling performance, with the field narrowing to the top three artists over the course of two rounds.

Acorn favorite Peter Carey will be serving as host and emcee for the evening. Judging the

competition will be Donnie Biggins (talent buyer, musician and venue owner), Karen Bridges (musician, writer and concert presenter), and Andrew Delaney (musician and producer).

The event will include special guest performances by the three judges, who are all acclaimed singer-songwriters, including the 2023 winner of the competition, Andrew Delaney.

Donnie Biggins is a singer/songwriter from Oak Park, Illinois. He is a member of Chicago's The Shams Band and owner/operator of Chicago music venue, Robert's Westside. Biggins is also the talent buyer for The Acorn and has been writing songs and performing live since 2005. He released his debut solo album, "Profiles," in November 2016. The album received press and airplay from the Chicago Tribune/Chicago Now, Glide Magazine, WGN Radio, WXRT, CHIRP Radio and Radio One Chicago.

Cincinnati-based songwriter Karen Bridges is a classically trained singer and multi-instrumentalist, and since 2012, she has performed extensively with Clint Thomson as Stone & Snow. Bridges is an advocate for women in music, and she regularly writes and speaks about her experience as part of an underrepresented and underestimated demographic, particularly in the rural Midwest.

Andrew Delaney of Arlington, Texas, is an unorthodox singer/songwriter and storyteller.

Over the years, Delaney has garnered numerous accolades for his writing, including grand prize wins at both the Songwriter Serenade competition in Moravia, Texas, and The Acorn Singer-Songwriter Competition in Three Oak. He was a three-time finalist in the prestigious Grassy Hills New Folk Competition at the Kerrville Folk Festival, a top three finisher in the Rocky Mountain Song Contest, an Emerging Artist at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival, and received Best Songwriter honors at the Dallas/Ft Worth "Ghosty" awards.

The event starts at 7p.m. and doors open at 6 p.m.

Tickets are available at acornlive.org. General Admission tickets are $25 (advance) and $30 (week of show). Reserved Seating is available at $55 (advance) and $60 (week of show).

The Acorn is located at 107 Generations Drive in Three Oaks. — STAFF REPORTS

From the Bleachers

COLUMN BY KURT MARGGRAF IN CHICAGO

There are a lot of things going on in the sporting world this week, hilighted by the NBA playoffs.

The finals have been hotly contested and well played.

Indiana, the underdog and Oklahoma City, the favorite, have battled to a draw for the first six games of the series and the deciding game seven is taking place as I am writing on Sunday night. The game started evenly but half way through the first quarter, Indiana's best player, Tyrese Halliburton went down with an Achilles injury and the air went out of the balloon for Indiana's fans. The team however kept working and led by a point at halftime.

Both of these teams appear to have a different blueprint than championship teams in the past. Teams like the Jordan led Bulls, the LeBron led Heat, the Magic led Lakers, and the Bird led Celtics, relied on superstars while these two teams, are playing like teams. I don't mean to imply that Indiana's Halliburton and OKC's Shai Gilgeous-Alexander aren't Superstars because they certainly are, but on any given night they are willing and able to allow their teammates to shine.

All 10 players who are on the court at any given time are great athletes. The teams run the court and play an extremely fun to watch brand of basketball. Only one ex-Bull, Alex Caruso, is playing in this series, and watching him play is exhilarating.

He is the sixth man for OKC and he is almost the perfect team player. He hustles, plays great defense, passes, rebounds, and scores. Makes you wonder why the Bulls traded him (although they got a good player in Josh Giddey). Giddey is younger and has a lot of upside, but he just doesn't hustle or play defense like Caruso. Indiana couldn't overcome Halliburtons injury and fell to OKC 103-91.

Admittedly, I've watched the Bulls almost exclusively this season, and they didn't play the same brand of basketball that these two teams do. While they have a few good players, they will have to get much stronger and athletic if they want to compete for a championship.

The Bulls ownership won six titles because they had the GOAT, but they've done little since.The team that featured Derric Rose had a chance but his injury and the fact that they weren't as good as the Miami Heat held them down.

I'm a little perplexed about the shenanigans going on in the WNBA. It seems like every team in the league designates one of their players to mug Caitlin Clark. I don't blame Clark's opponents for playing hard against her but a lot of them are just playing dirty. Clark has brought thousands of new fans to the league, so everybody will win. They seem to have no clue that they are in danger of killing the golden goose. Clark needs an enforcer on her team.

Michael Jordan said, "Some people want it to happen, some wish it would happen, and others make it happen."

Be kind. Talk to you next week. Peace, love, and happiness.

Everything has its wonders, even darkness and silence, and I learn, whatever state I may be in, therein to be content. — *Helen Keller*

Hometown NFL player to be in Patriotic Parade

BY STAN MADDUX

Over 90 units are scheduled to be in this year's Patriotic Parade Saturday, June 28, in Michigan City.

According to the city's special events department, the parade themed "God Bless Our Troops" will begin at 11 a.m. on Franklin Street in the Uptown Arts and District and travel south until reaching Ames Field.

Ames Field is where Braden Fiske, a Michigan City High School graduate and defense lineman for the Los Angeles Rams, will host a Family Fun Day beginning at 1 p.m.

The event will feature bounce houses and other fun things to do for children along with food trucks and a raffle for a signed Rams helmet, cleats and an all-expenses paid trip to the first Rams game of the season.

Proceeds will go toward Michigan City school athletics.

Fiske is this year's Honorary Grand Marshal of the parade.

According to the line-up, Fiske will be the 22nd unit in the parade to include other dignitaries like Mayor Angie Nelson Deuitch, Congressman Frank Mrvan and Uncle Sam on stilts.

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A line forms for cool beverages

Meagan McNeal praises Neighbor by Neighbor's efforts

Joanne Fitzsimmons Abele with Joey DiMaggio

'Founders Day Brunch' gives update on work of Neighbor By Neighbor

BY FRANCESCA SAGALA

So far, 2025 has been a tough year for those who need help in the area.

Only six months into 2025, and Neighbor By Neighbor has already gone through its emergency shelter budget for the year.

"The six month budget that we've already gone through, that was our full 2024 budget - so, you can just see it's basically doubling year after year of the homeless population we have here and that we have to keep housed," Dave Ball, vice chair of Neighbor By Neighbor's Board of Directors, said to the crowd that had gathered at the Three Oaks home of Kirk Amptmeyer and Gary Allen for this year's fundraiser Saturday, June 21.

The Rev. Jay Fast, who serves as secretary on the board, said $1,000 is the average cost to help an individual, or a family unit, who's in need of emergency shelter.

Electrical costs in the area have increased by about 12-13 percent compared to a year ago. Through their program, Sponsor a Neighbor, which helps seniors and those on disability, the cost is about $2,000 a household per year "to help those individuals."

On average, the organization helps, or responds to, 100 clients who are in need a month, Fast said.

Through staff members and volunteers, the organization provides about 150 bags of food and hygiene products a month from their emergency pantry, delivers additional food through a Senior Commodities program and offers delivery services through its local mobile food pantry.

"We meet these basic needs - providing food, shelter and utilities assistance, which are essential for our neighbors' survival," Fast said.

Neighbor by Neighbor also partners with Michigan Works for job opportunities and refers neighbors to their GED program.

Fast gave some real-life examples of how Neighbor by Neighbor has helped community members: This past spring, "Darlene," who was sleeping in her car, asked them for a gas card to have enough fuel to keep the heat on in her car and drive to gas stations and camps to heat up her food.

The crowd gathers under tents from the heat

A bicycle from Jackson Family Cycle was up for auction

Staff reached out to a local motel to secure a week of housing for Darlene to "help her get back on her feet."

With a place to stay, she was able to focus on her job search and secure a position at a hospital in Allegan. In addition, her employer agreed to pay for her housing expenses to help her get settled.

"Darlene was only looking for a gas card, but we were able to offer her some more help," Fast said.

In 2017, "Kristen," was struggling to hold down a job amidst her multiple health issues so she could pay rent and utilities and food for her children.

Neighbor by Neighbor tried helping her find a job through Michigan Works and providing her with budgeting resources but nothing seemed "effective," Fast said.

After showing up at the Neighbor by Neighbor office for a request for help with diapers and a gas card, she gave them a life update: Not only had she made significant improvements with her physical and mental health, she'd also gotten a job working at a school, had grown closer to a significant other with whom she shared living expenses and was working towards a bachelor's degree related to working with children.

"Behind the stories of 'Darlene' and 'Kristen,' there're hundreds more stories that have already been written and stories still being written and every time you share, you're participating in those stories you write a new chapter of hope for those people and you're doing that today," Fast said to the crowd of supporters.

Meagan McNeal, who's a jazz, soul and R& B singer, songwriter and recording artist who's appeared on NBC's "The Voice in 2017, said being a single mother comes with "lots and lots of responsibilities."

She said she'll be returning Oct. 10 to perform during Neighbor by Neighbor's "Do It with Love" fall fundraiser to give back to those who've shared struggles that are like hers.

"I have been all over this world, different continents, and the work you guys are doing here is so very important... I know firsthand how important it is to help your neighbor," she said.

For more on Neighbor by Neighbor, visit neighborbyneighbor.org.

The Rev. Jay Fast speaks about Neighbor by Neighbor's efforts

Dave Ball updates the crowd on Neighbor by Neighbor

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To Your Health

COLUMN BY KAREN EDWARDS ND

MAYBE IT IS YOUR VAGUS NERVE

The Vagus Nerve (Known as the tenth cranial nerve) is the main nerve of your parasympathetic nervous system. This system controls specific body functions that are involuntary, meaning you can't control them.

It is the longest cranial nerve in the body. It runs from your brain to your digestive organs carrying sensory and motor fibers to control your heart rate, blood pressure, digestion, lungs, immune system and mood. Your vagusnerve also plays a part in controlling speech, and even urine output. It helps your body switch back and forth between your flight-or-fight response (Sympathetic mode) and your parasympathetic mode, where you are more relaxed.

The nervous system is constantly scanning for cues to determine whether situations or people around you are safe, dangerous, or life threatening. Unconsciously, we are looking for these cues within our own body, in the environment around us, and in the body language, facial expressions, or voice tones of other people. Without realizing it, your belly constricts, heart rate increases, and muscles in your arms or legs grow tense. You might be reacting to the sound of your partner's voice, a smell of cologne, or the look on a stranger's face. When engaging in neuroception, you can begin to unconsciously observe for signs that your body is responding to a perceived threat.

But your vagus nerve can lose its ability to switch back to your parasympathetic mode due to factors like damage, stress and age. Known as vagal dysfunction, it can put you at risk for high blood pressure, heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, depression and anxiety.

Stimulating the vagus nerve can promote relaxation, reduce stress, and potentially alleviate symptoms associated with anxiety and other conditions. Resetting or toning the vagus nerve involves techniques like deep breathing, meditation, exercise, and even specific physical movements. If you're looking to improve your stress levels and overall health, you can naturally strengthen your vagus nerve in many ways

Massage, reflexology, Music, Cold water immersion are all good ways. Singing and humming make vibrational sounds that can also stimulate the vagus nerve as well as laughing. Gargling with water for 30 seconds to a minute can also stimulate the vagus nerve. There are even machines that you can purchase. There are acupressurepoints on your hands and feet and ears that will stimulate the vagus nerve. Google for a full map to show thesepoints.

Focus on slow, deep breaths that expand the belly, rather than just the chest. This technique, also known as belly breathing, activates the vagus nerve and promotes relaxation.

Mindful Meditation: Focus on the present moment, paying attention to your breath and bodily sensations. This can help lower heart rate and blood pressure, both indicators of vagal activity.

Stimulating the vagus nerve can help quickly address ringing in the ears (Tinnitus,) depression, regulate emotions, reduce blood pressure, lower your heart rate, reduce inflammation, digestive disorders, Migraines, minimize seizures in those who have them, anxiety andmore.

Karen Edwards is a board-Certified Dr. of Naturopathy, Master Herbalist, Vegan and Raw food Chef. She is owner of Holistic Alternatives in New Buffalo and La Porte for over 25 years.

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Youth fair's small animal registration deadline approaching

The deadline for registration of small animals to be exhibited at the 2025 Berrien County Youth Fair is July 1.

Small animals include rabbits, poultry, pocket pets, dogs and cats. One photo of cats and two photos of dogs (one front view and one side view of the dog) shown at the fair must be provided at registration with the name of the animal. In addition, dog photos must also be labeled with the exhibitor number, dog name, age, breed, sex and if altered or not, and cat photos must be labeled with the cat's name and exhibitor number.

As a reminder, a limited number of exhibitor handbooks and entry forms are available at all Berrien County Public libraries, Baroda City Mills in Baroda; Country Heritage Credit Union in Buchanan; Family Farm and Home in Benton Harbor; Tractor Supply Company, Rural King and Mark Farm Supply in Niles; Seifert's Farm Supply in Three Oaks and Tractor Supply Company in Stevensville.

Exhibitor handbooks are also available online at www.bcyf.org. Exhibitor entry forms and handbooks are available at the fair office as well.

Registration is open to any Berrien County resident, ages 5 to 20 years of age. The exhibitor age is as of Jan. 1, 2025. Online registration is now open. Once registered

(each year you will create a username and password – it can be the same as last year's), exhibitors can return to the program and add more entries up until each entry deadline.

Families can register under one e-mail and password. The exhibitor's printed email confirmation will serve as the traditional yellow copy of the entry form and is required on entry day, just as the yellow copy of the traditional entry form is. The link for online entries can be found at www.bcyf.org.

Entry forms may be turned in any time up to the appropriate deadline date. Entry forms may be brought to the fair office between the hours of 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday on or before July 1, postmarked on or before July 1, or placed in the drop box outside the fair office after office hours until midnight on July 1.

Other upcoming deadlines include the Berrien County Youth Fair King and Queen Contest, which is open to current BCYF exhibitors ages 16-19. The King and Queen contest deadline is July 15. The BCYF Prince and Princess contest registration (which is open to exhibitors ages 9-12) deadline is July 15.

Applications can be picked up at the fair office or online at www.bcyf.org. Registration for all still exhibit areas (crafts, flowers, horticulture and home economics) is Aug. 1.

Registration for still exhibits is open to Berrien County residents, ages 5 to 20 years of age. No late entries will be accepted.

Questions can be addressed by contacting the fair office at 269-473-4251.

Berrien County Youth Fair dates are Aug. 11-16, with the theme "Fiesta at the Fair." — STAFF REPORTS

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
New Buffalo Times
— SINCE 1942 —

A Writer's Life...

DURING THE GOLDEN AGE OF TELEVISION ANIMATION

BY JACK OLESKER

A Second Late night Epiphany...and Lori

It was raining hard. I couldn't sleep, a thought weighing on me. I got up, nuked a glass of warm milk and sat in my dark living room listening to the rain, thinking.

It took me half an hour to figure out why Jean and Andy allowed story editors to be paid for writing episodes of a series they were story editing.

I didn't delude myself into thinking Jean and Andy were encouraging story editors to write scripts for shows they were story editing just because Jean and Andy were nice guys. No. It came to me that having the story editors write episodes removed a whole layer of the creative process. Who knew a series better than its story editor? If the story editor was writing their own episodes then there was no need for them to work on editing an outside writer's script to bring it into the 'house style' of the series. The story editor had already done that by writing the script themself.

I took it to its logical conclusion. If I was the story editor whose job was to initially chose writers' story springboards to be presented to Lori, Jean and Andy, and if Jean and Andy had no problem with me writing scripts myself, I'd write my own story springboards, present them to Lori, Jean and Andy, get scripts assigned to myself, write the scripts and make the script writing fee...which was exactly what Lori, Jean and Andy had already done when they sent me home to write Care Bears story springboards!

It occurred to me that it was time for me to start shopping for a nicer car...

With that pleasant thought on my mind, I went back to bed.

The next day Lori squeezed me in for a meeting a little after eleven, just before my noon meeting with the Care Bears writers. As she looked over my list of writers on a legal pad, she asked, "How did you get this many to come?"

I answered, "I said anyone who didn't attend wasn't going to work on Care Bears anymore." It was a half-truth, my having omitted that I also threatened that if they didn't attend the meeting they wouldn't work on any future DIC projects.

Lori waited. Knowing a writer must have called to tell her about the rest of my empty threat, I asked, "What did he say when he called?"

Lori grinned. "He asked 'Who is this Olesker-guy and I said you're the Care Bears' story editor and you've got my, Jean's and Andy's complete confidence." I feigned relief, putting on a show of 'nervously' wiping my forehead.

Lori let out a laugh. She spent the next 40 minutes going over my list of writers. She told me two writers were a team. "Not the most creative and you'll have a lot of editing to do on their scripts. But they're fast and they're reliable."

The other writers, who Lori named one by one, ran the gamut from dazzlingly creative to full of themselves, from easy-to-work-with to difficult-to-work-with. Looking at the last name on my list, Lori sighed and ended with, "And then there's Howard Cohen...", her words trailing off.

I looked at her questioningly. Her eyes went her watch and she said, "You've got a meeting to get to."

"I do." I stood and left for the conference room, still wondering who Howard Cohen was and why Lori had reacted as she had when she saw his name on my list.

HOROSCOPE

JUNE 26-JULY 2, 2025

AS INTERPRETED BY SANDY "STAR" BENDT

ARIES MARCH 21—APRIL 19

Conversations could easily turn personal and you may say or hear things of a very personal nature. Things that could change your outlook or perception of work situations. Be careful not to get overly personal with people you don't know well. It could affect your reputation or position.

TAURUS APRIL 20—MAY 20

Watch your spending this week. There is no need to pick up the bill every time you go out with friends. There is nothing wrong with splitting the bill or asking for the cash, if you pay with a card. The best course of action is to stay home and take care of La Casa del Toro for a change.

GEMINI MAY 21—JUNE 21

Your efforts to impress may not be recognized or acknowledged now. Try not to get discouraged. Detach from emotional expectations and the need for validation. Take some time to check in with yourself to ensure that you are not in people pleasing mode. Be authentic.

CANCER JUNE 22—JULY 22

Circumstances are going to change for the better. Don't try to force issues, but wait for things to change. This is not the time to assert yourself. If you try, you will lock horns with your peers but if you just sit tight, you will gain considerable help from others. Your success may seem small at first.

LEO JULY 23—AUGUST 22

A friend may not come through for you as expected this week. Try not to get too upset about it. They could be going through some drama or family situation and may even ask you to help them in some way. Be careful you don't get more involved than you should. There is a lot of work to do here.

VIRGO AUGUST 23—SEPTEMBER 22

When dealing with coworkers or associates be sure to keep the communications straightforward and to the point. Avoid vague language and especially avoid innuendos. Things could easily get misinterpreted and a simple job could become a big chore.

LIBRA SEPTEMBER 23—OCTOBER 22

You will be in an adventurous mood this week and will be ready to try something unusual and possibly even risqué. Which is okay but make sure that what you do doesn't somehow conflict with your job or social standing. There's nothing wrong with having fun, just keep it above board.

SCORPIO OCTOBER 23—NOVEMBER 21

Your career may undergo some fluctuations this week. Hammer out commitments and ask for clarification even if you think you have a clear picture of what is expected of you. If you slow down and really think processes through before implementing them, you will avoid a lot of hassle later.

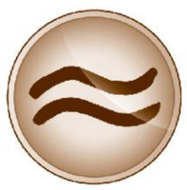
SAGITTARIUS NOVEMBER 22—DECEMBER 21

Relationships could get a bit messy this week. If you have been footing the bill or covering for someone else's responsibilities, it may be time to back off or turn it over to someone who can better deal with the situation. It's time for you to get out in the world and live a little.

CAPRICORN DECEMBER 22—JANUARY 19

There is a lot on your plate this week and you may not be able to get all the help you had hoped for. Work projects may be delayed and deadlines may have to be renegotiated. Don't get discouraged, this gives you time to look over plans and prepare more physically for the job.

AQUARIUS JANUARY 20—FEBRUARY 18



Drama alert! This week jealousy issues with a coworker or tension between you and a partner could erupt. Normally you maintain a certain aloofness with those you work closely with but not this time. Be proud of your uniqueness. Avoid comparing yourself to others.

PISCES FEBRUARY 19—MARCH 20

Your parental instincts will be strong this week and you may feel the need to nurture someone or take them under your wing but before you get too involved be sure it doesn't affect your own wellbeing first. Yes, you should help others but not to your detriment. Look a little closer at this one.

If you want to be loved, be lovable. — *Ovid*

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Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1 through 9.

		9				7		6
5			9		8			1
1			3					
		8		1				7
		7				3		5
4	9						8	
	6						7	
						4	6	9
9		3		4				

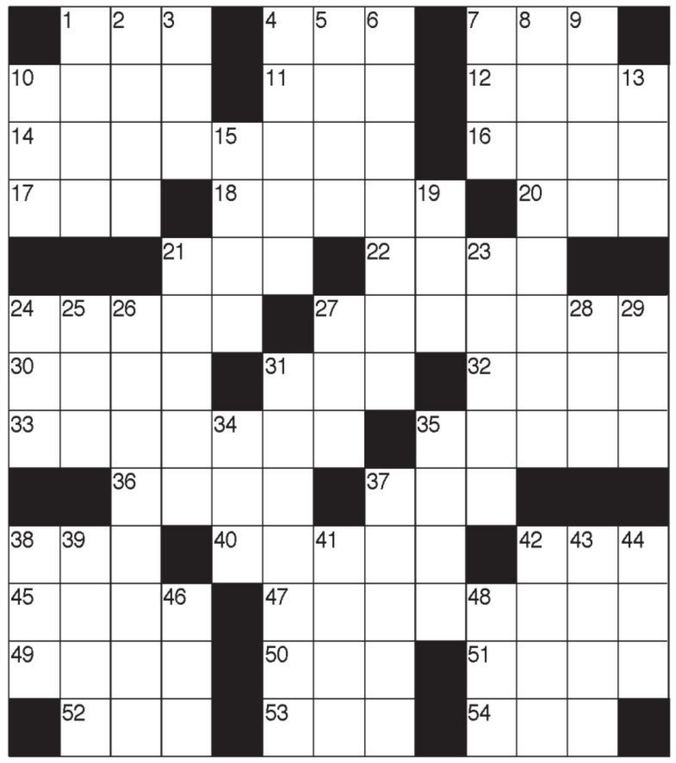
CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS

1 Hemp shrub
4 Opening
7 Female sheep
10 Fr. soprano
11 Compass direction
12 Bean
14 Addendum
16 Rosebud, e.g.
17 Burmese knife
18 Hindu prayer position
20 Pair
21 Tosspot
22 Russ. inland sea
24 Ancient fish
27 Balm
30 Cork helmet
31 Cathode-ray tube (abbr.)
32 King of Israel
33 One of the Seven Hills of Rome
35 Desolate
36 End
37 Bullring cheer
38 N.Z. woody vine
40 Mother-of-pearl
42 Braz. tree
45 Ceylonese langur
47 Cuke
49 Son of Judah
50 Father: Arabic
51 Ancient Per. province
52 Air traffic control (abbr.)
53 Article (Fr.)
54 Part of a course

DOWN

1 Scientific name (suf.)
2 Annul
3 Async-Sync Interface (abbr.)
4 Spirit (Ger.)
5 Forest ox
6 Banner
7 Loop trains
8 Colima (2 words)
9 Flightless bird
10 Block
13 Stir
15 New Mexico art colony
19 Amer. Red Cross (abbr.)
21 Pile
23 Mush
24 Et cetera (abbr.)
25 Haitian voodoo deity
26 Gibus (2 words)
27 Container
28 ___ pro nobis
29 One who is (suf.)
31 Pers. lynx
34 John, Gaelic
35 Blue (Fr.)
37 Hades
38 Love (Lat.)
39 Jap. writing system
41 Caribbean island
42 Qualified
43 Wampum
44 Fortify
46 Ancient (abbr.)
48 Honey



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A Day in the Life

THESE TIMES...

BY LAWRENCE VON EBELER

It's estimated that more than a million "No Kings" demonstrators over the weekend in 1,200 cities, Some reported it was in the millions. The dominant theme being a "NO King"message that was referencing the common charge that Trump wants to be a king. He has much of his second term left to shape public perception any way he wishes to be thought of slightly greater than twice charged with fraud and once charged and convicted as a sexual predator, You can toss in a few more charges and convictions if you are so inclined. He has good reason to try for a third term as it is rumored, to keep himself out of the Pokey.

Attendance for Trump's BIRTHDAY, a 45 million dollar military parade was under what was reported. With a light rain on those who did attend he gave an uncommon speech devoid of politics for once!

I have met the man when he first bought Mar-A-Lago and I found him personally charming which explains in part why he is so successful in his many shady and lucrative money making deals; He just charms them. While moguls find him personally and professionally bankrupt, he just laughs at all of them as he prepares to fly off for golfing in his "Flying Palace" a gift of the Saudi Arabians who murdered the *Washington Post*'s reporter and had him cut up like a hog for market.

He is self congratulatory over the bombing of Iran's nuclear sites with our B52 bombers carrying 30,000 pound bombs flew with midairrefueling to the nuclear sites and successfully dropped their bombs on the Iran's nuclear sites. Trump declared the mission a spectacular success in his evening pronouncement. It remains to be seen what the world decides. Notably Tulsi Gabbard stated that Iran was not close to developing a Nuclear bomb and he ignored that report and rudely dismissed her.

In spite of my personal views of the President, I am practical enough to know he ain't goin' nowhere for another three years. He can take the Gulf, Greenland (which I have visited and found charming), and Iceland for good measure and no one will step up to the plate from his loyal subjects. It's one of Trump's greatest triumphs; the sewing up of his party's loyalty and unbelievable faith.

Never mind what they think of him personally. Lindsay Graham called him every name in the book at one time not so long ago. Same story with many Trumpsters who won't be honest if they lose him as a power source. All 50 states are against Trump's crackdown on deportation. If it's true it's startling.

I am not inclined to discuss Trump with my best friends who are super bright and successful and it remains the only issue we avoid.

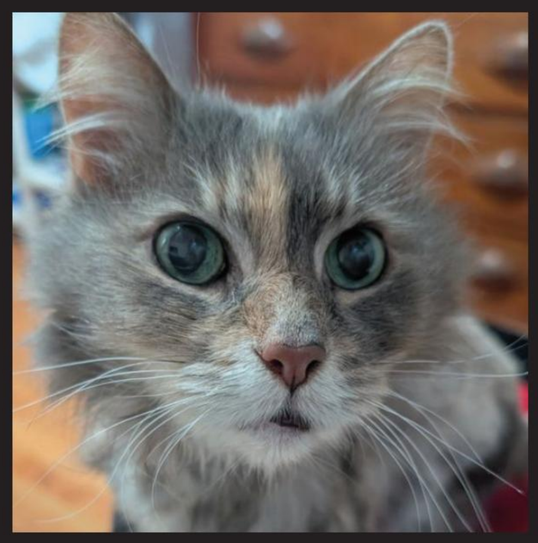
The damage to the Iranian scientist's residence was considerable, killing them all according to some but others disagree. It was the main residence for their nuclear scientists but they also had residences in the mountains that were untouched. Trump is debating on this war. If he chooses wrong he could fry himself. Israel is one of the US's oldest partners. We are currently taking flack about the Gaza situation where people and children are starving and truckloads of food are sitting just over the border. There are many decisions to be made that are highly sensitive, like the poor souls starving in Gaza that Israel keeps pounding without an ounce of guilt. History will judge the crass decisions of this Israel administration.

Changing subjects wildly:

When my family moved to the farm there was a lot of paint and papering through the whole old house. For my sister's large bedroom they built a walk-in closet and painted and wall papered it which made a nicely decorated room. My room with the old WWII wall paper with airplanes and battle ships was untouched for years. Which later I ended up redecorating myself. It was my first design job and that included wall paper and paint,a new bed (replacing the old iron bed that was struck by an arc of a lightning bolt from wires coming into the house from outside my window and the lightening arced over to my bed with me in it and woke me. There were black scorch marks on the bed frame. I also got a reading chair, a desk, and a wardrobe (for lack of a closet). I hired and paid for the paper hanger (who was also my 4-H club's Leader). I spent all night-long painting the ancient Venetian blinds to be color coordinated with the woodwork that I also painted. It was a complete redecorating job which I did at the ripe old age of 14, and paid for with my fish worm sales.

I got that bug early!

PET OF THE WEEK



MONKEY

Monkey loves everything, and everyone. She is friendly to cats, dogs, children and strangers. She is an adult domestic long hair, with her vaccinations up-to-date, ands is spayed. Monkey has diabetes, and takes a daily oral medication. She is doing well with her medication, but it must be taken at the same time. Monkey loves to be petted, and while let you know when she wants to be. She loves a nice breeze by the window, and even a stroller ride on a beautiful day. Make Monkey part of your home.

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8	3	9	4	2	1	7	5	6
5	4	6	9	7	8	2	3	1
1	7	2	3	6	5	8	9	4
3	5	8	2	1	6	9	4	7
6	2	7	8	9	4	3	1	5
4	9	1	7	5	3	6	8	2
2	6	4	5	8	9	1	7	3
7	8	5	1	3	2	4	6	9
9	1	3	6	4	7	5	2	8

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DEATH NOTICES

BERRIEN SPRINGS — Robert Booth, 76, of Berrien Springs, died Friday, June 20, 2025. Arrangements are pending at Wagner Family Funerals Connelly Chapel, Cassopolis.

THREE OAKS — Martin Walter LaBine, Jr., 85, of Three Oaks, Michigan, passed away on Monday, June 23, 2025. Arrangements are pending at Wagner Family Funerals Pobocik Chapel, Three Oaks.

LOCAL INTELLIGENCE
New Buffalo Times
— SINCE 1942 —

Ribbon cut on new farm bureau cabin at fairgrounds

BY STAN MADDUX

La Porte County Farm Bureau has a true Amish built log cabin in the same spot as its artificial one relocated a short distance away for another use during the fair, which begins this year on July 5.

A ribbon cutting was held June 19 at the new cabin made with 12 inch in diameter logs from white pine trees brought in from Wisconsin.

La Porte County Farm Bureau President Mark Parkman said it has a projected lifespan of 100 years.

"This cabin here was built to last," he said.

The appearance of the new cabin is also a better fit in Pioneer Land where it's among the other dozen or so structures in the popular 1800's type village, which comes to life during the fair and for a weekend early in the Christmas season.

Parkman said the plan was to replace the old cabin with a more solid built authentic looking one.

Orva Yoder and his family-owned company from Nappanee was awarded the contract to do just that and recently finished construction performed entirely on site beginning in March after the old cabin was moved less than 200 feet away.

In comparison, parts of the old cabin where milk was served to fairgoers annually for 10 cents and later 25 cents per cup were prefabricated and had a number of rotting boards along with other premature signs of aging less than 30 years since it was constructed.

Parkman said the old cabin with a shingled roof served its purpose well but there were doubts whether fixing it up would be a wise long-term investment.

He said the beloved tradition of selling white and chocolate milk will continue at the new cabin, which also has a wood burning fireplace made of stone along with heating and air conditioning, features lacking in the old structure.

Parkman said the cost of the new, slightly larger cabin featuring a tin roof was over $100,000.

Much of the expense was offset from $1,000 contributions by over 100 individuals, farm families, businesses and organizations listed on banners placed on beams on the front porch.

Donors responding to invitations to attend the ribbon cutting received a free ribeye steak dinner eaten on picnic tables following a tour of the cabin.

"If it wasn't for their help, it would have been a much harder project for us to do," Parkman said.

Farm Bureau member Luann Troxel said she was especially taken back by the scent of white pine when she entered the cabin but also very much admired the rustic look on the inside.

"You see these huge beams and you see the barn doors and the antiques on the shelves. It's just really nice. I love it," she said.

Parkman said the new cabin might be used on a more year-round basis for meetings and other events that promote agriculture.

"This is a community cabin," said Harold Parker, a former longtime Farm Bureau District 1 director who remains active with the organization as a member.

For now, Parkman said the old cabin will be used as a place for mothers to breastfeed their babies in privacy during the fair and change a diaper, if necessary.

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